



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Appomattox Court House
National Historical Park

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Appomattox Court House News Release

For Immediate Release:
Contact:

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National Park Service Commemorates the 150th Anniversary of the Surrender at Appomattox

**~ Five Days of Special Programs Feature Commemorative Ceremonies, Living History
Demonstrations and Interpretive Programs ~**

Appomattox, Va. – To mark the 150th anniversary of the surrender at Appomattox, which signaled the effective end of the American Civil War, special programs and events are planned from April 8-12, 2015 at [Appomattox Court House National Historical Park](http://www.nps.gov/apco). These activities, including commemorative ceremonies, living history demonstrations, and interpretive programs, will highlight the April 9 surrender by Confederate General Robert E. Lee to Union Lt. General Ulysses S. Grant. Though other armies remained in the field, the surrender of the Army of Northern Virginia, the largest and most famous of the Confederate armies, signaled the effective end of the American Civil War, the elimination of slavery, and the preservation of the Union.

Among the signature events of the five-day sesquicentennial observance at Appomattox Court House NHP are an event honoring each person emancipated in Appomattox as a result of the surrender with 4,600 luminaries; recreations of historic events, including the meeting between Lee and Grant at the McLean House and the stacking of arms by the surrendering Confederate army; and real-time tours of the final military engagement of the war in the Eastern Theater.

In the park's Visitor Center, located in the reconstructed courthouse building, there will be a special exhibit for the 150th commemoration. On display for the first time will be the letter containing the surrender terms that Lt. General Grant signed and gave to General Lee in the parlor of the McLean House on April 9, 1865. The exhibit will also contain three military flags that were in Appomattox on April 9, 1865 – the headquarters flags of Maj. Generals Sheridan and Custer, and the battle flag of the 9th Virginia Cavalry; an inkwell that was in the McLean Parlor on the historic day; and the U.S. flag that draped President Lincoln's coffin while his body was in Philadelphia, en route to Springfield, Illinois after his assassination. For most of these items it will be the first time they have returned to Appomattox in 150 years. The exhibit is made possible by generous funding from the Appomattox 1865 Foundation, the official friends group of Appomattox Court House National Historical Park.

All events are open to the public and reservations and tickets are not required. The regular Appomattox Court House NHP admission fee of \$3 per person will **not** be charged from Wednesday, April 8 through Sunday, April 12.

For more information, visit the Appomattox Court House National Historical Park website at <http://www.nps.gov/apco> or contact the park Visitor Center at 434-352-8987 ext. 226.

SCHEDULE OF SPECIAL ACTIVITIES

Daily Activities – April 8-12, 2015

Visitor Center

At the Appomattox Court House National Historical Park Visitor Center, located in the reconstructed courthouse building, view exhibits containing many original artifacts associated with the events surrounding the surrender of the Confederate Army of Northern Virginia, ranging from the pencil used by General Lee to make corrections in the surrender terms to uniforms, documents, and military items associated with the historic events at Appomattox Court House. In the park's theater you can see the park's new film being released for the 150th anniversary entitled *With Malice Toward None*. In the nearby Clover Hill Tavern Kitchen (and expanded tent area), visit the bookstore operated by Eastern National, which contains a wide variety of books and keepsakes about Appomattox and the surrender of Robert E. Lee.

Village of Appomattox Court House

Tour the more than a dozen original and reconstructed buildings of Appomattox Court House, including the home of Wilmer McLean, site of the surrender meeting between Lee and Grant; the former Appomattox Courthouse, that houses the park visitor center; and the Meeks Store, which was the Post Office and one of the social centers of village life. Visit the Clover Hill Tavern, and watch parole passes being printed on an original Adams Cottage Press in the same space where 30,000 were printed for the Confederate troops 150 years ago.

Youth and Education Station

Calling all kids! From April 8-12, take part in a variety of special programs and hands-on history related to the surrender at Appomattox and the end of the Civil War. The station is located at the Old Jail Site, not far from the Clover Hill Tavern. All activities are free!

Wet Plate Photography Demonstrations

Teachers and students from Lynchburg College will be demonstrating Civil War era photography near the Meeks Store in the village.

Wednesday, April 8, 2015

Park grounds: 8:30 a.m. – 8 p.m.

Visitor Center: 8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.

9 a.m., 4 p.m.

Why Appomattox?/The Campaign

A look at why Lee and Grant's armies were in and around Richmond and Petersburg for 9 ½ months and why Lee made the decision to evacuate and what he was trying to do when he left. Explore the daily challenges that the Confederate Army of Northern Virginia faced on the campaign and how Grant was eventually able to not only block Lee to the south but also gain his front (west) bringing about the surrender. Learn why the surrender took place in Appomattox. *Tibbs Lane and the Stage Road, west of the McLean House*

10 a.m.

The Fall of Richmond and Petersburg

After almost 10 months of fighting around the Richmond, capital of the Confederacy, and its major supply hub in Petersburg, both cities fell in to Union hands on April 3, 1865. The events of those last days started the armies on a campaign that eventually led them to Appomattox Court House. *Triangle in front of the Peers House*

11 a.m.

The Surrender Meeting

At about 1:30 p.m. on April 9, 1865, Lt. Gen. Grant arrived at the McLean House and his meeting with Gen. Lee began that resulted in magnanimous terms of surrender for Lee's army. It is a surreal moment when the two top field commanders of the war met face to face. What was the tone of the meeting? Did they only talk about the surrender? Who else was there besides Lee and Grant? *Tibbs Lane and the Stage Road, west of the McLean House*

12 p.m.

The Battle of Five Forks

For one afternoon this tiny isolated crossroads beyond the end of the Confederate defenses of Petersburg was the focus of 30,000 soldiers. The result of the fighting led to the fall of Petersburg and Richmond and launched the Appomattox Campaign. *Triangle in front of the Peers House*

1 p.m.

The Village of Appomattox Court House

The small village of Appomattox Court House was an unlikely scene for high drama during the Civil War, and for four years neither ever came close to it. But on April 8, 1865 the unlikely happened and the little town was immortalized in American History. How long had this town been here when the war came? How long would it be here after the war was over? What can the remains of this small town teach us about Southside and Central Virginia during the mid-1800s and how the war impacted it? *Tibbs Lane and the Stage Road, west of the McLean House*

2 p.m.

The Battles of Sailor's Creek

On the afternoon of April 6, 1865, three days prior to Lee's surrender at Appomattox Court House, disaster struck his army in the rural fields of Amelia County. Learn about the events of that day and how those events directly influenced the ultimate fate of the Army of Northern Virginia. *Triangle in front of the Peers House*

3 p.m.

The Battles of Appomattox

Explore how opposing forces met on the afternoon of April 8 and resulted in one of the most unusual battles of the war, the Battle of Appomattox Station. Learn how it set the stage for the final battle of the Army of Northern Virginia, the Battle of Appomattox Court House and the strategies that played out on the morning of the 9th that led to surrender. The casualties of these battles were the last of the war for these armies. *Tibbs Lane and the Stage Road, west of the McLean House*

3:30 p.m., 5 p.m., 6:30 p.m.

Battle of Appomattox Station – Phase I

This is a three phase interpretive program that is designed to interpret the battle at three key places at three key times to better understand why the battle was fought and how its outcome contributed to Lee's decision to surrender the next day.

The Stacking of Arms (talk)

Many historians have felt that the Surrender Parade on April 12, 1865 really held the true meaning of what transpired at Appomattox. Relive that day as you stand along the Stage Road where “honor answered honor” as both armies would face each other one last time. Their conduct that day signaled a dignified end to our nation’s bloodiest four years. *Triangle in front of the Peers House*

A Parlor Meeting: Setting a Nation's Course

This real-time program will remember the meeting between Grant and Lee in Wilmer McLean's parlor as it happened, just yards from where it occurred, precisely 150 years later. It will feature a variety of voices and perspectives, including Dr. Edward L. Ayers, historian and president of the University of Richmond, and Al Parker, descendant of Union Lt. Colonel Ely S. Parker, who wrote the final draft of the surrender document. The ceremony will also include the first-day-of-issue unveiling of the new Appomattox *Forever* stamp by the U.S. Postal Service. *McLean House*

Bells Across the Land

The ringing will coincide with the moment, just after 3:00 p.m. on April 9, that the historic meeting between Grant and Lee in the McLean House ended. After the ringing at Appomattox, bells will reverberate across the country. Churches, temples, schools, city halls, public buildings, battlefields, historic sites, and others will be ring bells precisely at 3:15 p.m. (Eastern time) for four minutes (each minute symbolic of a year of war). Those who are present and have “bells” on their cell phones are invited to join in the reverberation.

Ely Parker: A Warrior in Two Camps

Ely Parker was U. S. Grant's friend and aide-de-camp and he wrote the final draft of the Appomattox surrender terms. This program will cover Parker's military accomplishments, and his civilian accomplishments, including being a Seneca Sachem and a graduate of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, which launched his engineering career. The program will be delivered by Al Parker, Ely Parker's great, great, nephew. *Tibbs Lane and the Stage Road, west of the McLean House*

North Carolina Monument Ceremony

Confederate re-enactors and members of the public that would like to join will march westward from the historic village (across Hwy. 24) to the only monument in the park erected by a state, the North Carolina Monument. Members will pay tribute to the soldiers from the Tar Heel State who are often remembered to be, “First at Big Bethel, Farthest at Gettysburg, and Last at Appomattox.”

U.S. Colored Troops at Appomattox

African American soldiers fighting for the Union, many of them former slaves, were officially known as United States Colored Troops (USCTs) and made up nearly ten percent of all Federal forces during the Civil War. Seven regiments of USCT's, more than 5,000 men, fought in the Battle of Appomattox Court House on the morning of April 9. Who were these soldiers who risked all for the preservation of the Union and the Emancipation of the enslaved? *Triangle in front of the Peers House*

5 p.m. *The Confederate Cemetery*

Learn about the creation of the small Confederate Cemetery west of the historical village. Learn about the Appomattox Ladies Association, the community's efforts to establish the cemetery, and intriguing biographical sketches on the soldiers buried there. Get a unique glimpse on some of the last soldiers to die in battle, some who enlisted in the spring of 1861.

Friday, April 10, 2015

Park grounds: 8:30 a.m. – 9 p.m.

Visitor Center: 8:30 a.m. – 9 p.m.

9 a.m., 12 p.m., 5 p.m. *Paroling Confederates*

After the surrender terms were agreed to, including the Lee and Grant meeting on April 10, there was much work to do to implement those terms. In exchange for laying down their military equipment, each Confederate soldier would receive a paper parole pass and begin their journeys home, some short, some quite long. This program examines why paroles passes were needed, how they were created, distributed, and how they aided the former Confederates. *9 a.m., 12 p.m. - Triangle in front of the Peers House; 5p.m. - Tibbs Lane and the Stage Road, west of the McLean House*

9 a.m. *The Village of Appomattox Court House*

The small village of Appomattox Court House was an unlikely scene for high drama during the Civil War, and for four years neither ever came close to it. But on April 8, 1865 the unlikely happened and the little town was immortalized in American History. How long had this town been here when the war came? How long would it be here after the war was over? What can the remains of this small town teach us about Southside and Central Virginia during the mid-1800s and how the war impacted it? *Tibbs Lane and the Stage Road, west of the McLean House*

10 a.m. *Lee and Grant's April 10th Meeting*

The often forgotten second meeting between the two generals took place on horseback at the eastern edge of the village. What was Grant's motivation to ask for this meeting? Why did they meet in this obscure place, and what did the Confederate soldiers receive as a result of this meeting? *Triangle in front of the Peers House*

10 a.m. *The Commissioners Meeting*

Many people know that Lee and Grant met in the McLean House on April 9th to agree on the terms of the surrender. What is much less known is that not all of the details of the surrender were settled in that meeting. Grant and Lee agreed that three generals from each army would meet the following day to finalize details. These six generals are known as the "Commissioners" and they met on April 10, in the McLean Parlor, which by that point contained little furniture. Find out who they were, and why and what details were settled as a result of this meeting. *Tibbs Lane and the Stage Road, west of the McLean House*

<u>Various times</u>	<u>Living History Demonstrations</u>
10:30 a.m.	Confederate small arms
11:30 a.m.	Union artillery
1:30 p.m.	Confederate artillery
2:30 p.m.	Cavalry surrender (<i>this is the historic date of the Confederate cavalry surrender</i>)
3:45 p.m.	Confederate artillery (horse-drawn maneuver)
4:30 p.m.	Cavalry surrender (<i>this is the historic date of the Confederate artillery surrender</i>)

11 a.m., 4 p.m. Why Appomattox?/The Campaign

A look at why Lee and Grant's armies were in and around Richmond and Petersburg for 9 ½ months and why Lee made the decision to evacuate and what he was trying to do when he left. Explore the daily challenges that the Confederate Army of Northern Virginia faced on the campaign and how Grant was eventually able to not only block Lee to the south but also gain his front (west) bringing about the surrender. Learn why the surrender took place in Appomattox.

11 a.m. - *Triangle in front of the Peers House*; 4:00 - *Tibbs Lane and the Stage Road, west of the McLean House*

War & Emancipation:

11 a.m. The African American Experience in the Civil War

Dr. Roger Davidson, Jr., Assistant Professor of History at Coppin State University, will discuss the connection between the outbreak of war and the destruction of slavery. More specifically, he will highlight the wartime experiences of African Americans during the war and their role as agents of emancipation. *Tibbs Lane and the Stage Road, west of the McLean House*

12 p.m. Caring for the Wounded at Appomattox

There were approximately 95,000 soldiers in the vicinity of Appomattox Court House on the morning of April 9 at the conclusion of the second battle fought in the area in as many days. Explore the subject of medical treatment for the hundreds of sick and wounded as a result of the last battles fought by the Army of Northern Virginia. *Tibbs Lane and the Stage Road, west of the McLean House*

1 p.m. Grant and Lee as Peacemakers

William C. Davis, recently retired Director of Programs at the Virginia Center for Civil War Studies at Virginia Tech, will examine the maneuvers of their armies which brought Grant and Lee to Appomattox. Once there, fate cast them in the roles of peacemakers, yet each had conceived a silent personal agenda for achieving it for months, and coincidentally with similar goals. Their little known and underappreciated efforts to end the war quietly add dimension to the lives of men who were already deservedly national icons. *Triangle in front of the Peers House*

1 p.m. The Surrender Meeting

At about 1:30 p.m. on April 9, 1865, Lt. Gen. Grant arrived at the McLean House and his meeting with Gen. Lee began that resulted in magnanimous terms of surrender for Lee's army. It is a surreal moment when the two top field commanders of the war met face to face. What was the tone of the meeting? Did they only talk about the surrender? Who else was there besides Lee and Grant? *Tibbs Lane and the Stage Road, west of the McLean House*

2 p.m.

The Stacking of Arms (talk)

dignified end to our nation's bloodiest four years. *Triangle in front of the Peers House*

2 p.m.

Confederates Going Home

challenges did they face? *Tibbs Lane and the Stage Road, west of the McLean House*

3 p.m.

Stacking of Arms Ceremony (Reenactment)

Union re-enactors and watch the Confederate Army of Northern Virginia. See an exchange of flags between the lines of Union soldiers and Confederates march away, returning to their homes to begin their journeys home. *Stage Road*

5 p.m.

Slavery and Memory of an African American Descendent

family), will discuss oral traditions, the historical and personal and professional journey. Other Isbell and perspectives. *Triangle in front of the Peers House*

6:30 p.m.

Footsteps to Freedom

program that invites us to think about emancipation as one of the significant outcomes of the war. Unlike the theoretical ideas that inspired the Emancipation Proclamation, Lee's surrender lead to Emancipation Realized. Hannah Reynolds was the only known civilian casualty of the fighting in the village on the morning of April 9, 1865. She was an enslaved woman who was mortally wounded just hours before emancipation. This ceremony will take the form of a funeral for Hannah Reynolds and provide the opportunity to eulogize her life and the institution that died with her. The program will end with the lighting of 4,600 luminaries representing each emancipated person in Appomattox County as a result of the surrender. *(NOTE – The rain date for this program is Saturday, April 11 at 6:30 p.m.)*

Saturday, April 11, 2015

Park grounds: 8:30 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Visitor Center: 8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.

9 a.m., 12 p.m.

Paroling the Confederates

was much work to do to implement those terms. In exchange for laying down their military equipment, each Confederate soldier would receive a paper parole pass and begin their journeys home, some short, some quite long. This program examines why paroles passes were needed, how they were created, distributed, and how they aided the former Confederates. *Triangle in front of the Peers House*

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA™

The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.

9 a.m., 1 p.m., 5 p.m. *Why Appomattox?/The Campaign*

A look at why Lee and Grant's armies were in and around Richmond and Petersburg for 9 ½ months and why Lee made the decision to evacuate and what he was trying to do when he left. Explore the daily challenges that the Confederate Army of Northern Virginia faced on the campaign and how Grant was eventually able to not only block Lee to the south but also gain his front (west) bringing about the surrender. We'll answer the question: Why did the surrender take place in Appomattox? 9 a.m., 5 p.m. - *Tibbs Lane and the Stage Road, west of the McLean House; 1p.m. - Triangle in front of the Peers House*

<u>Various times</u>	<u>Living History Demonstrations</u>
10:30 a.m.	Union Rifle Demonstrations
11:30 a.m.	Artillery Surrender Demonstration (<i>this is the historic date of the Confederate artillery surrender</i>)
12:30 a.m.	Cavalry Demonstration
1:30 p.m.	Union artillery demonstration
4:30 p.m.	Artillery surrender demonstration (<i>this is the historic date of the Confederate artillery surrender</i>)

10 a.m. *U.S. Colored Troops at Appomattox*

African American soldiers fighting for the Union, many of them former slaves, were officially known as United States Colored Troops (USCT) and made up nearly ten percent of all Federal forces during the Civil War. Seven regiments of USCTs, more than 5,000 men, fought in the Battle of Appomattox Court House on the morning of April 9. Learn about these soldiers who risked all for the preservation of the Union and the emancipation of the enslaved. *Triangle in front of the Peers House*

10 a.m. *The Surrender Meeting*

At about 1:30 p.m. on April 9, 1865, Lt. Gen. Grant arrived at the McLean House and his meeting with Gen. Lee began that resulted in magnanimous terms of surrender for Lee's army. It was a surreal moment when the two top field commanders of the war met face to face. Learn about the tone of the meeting, what else the commanders talked about and who else attended. *Tibbs Lane and the Stage Road, west of the McLean House*

11 a.m. *Johnston's Surrender at Bennett Place*

John Guss, Site Manager of Bennett Place State Historic Site (N.C.), will discuss the final collapse of the Army of Tennessee and share the events and the controversial surrender negotiations between Major General William T. Sherman and General Joseph E. Johnston at the small farm of James and Nancy Bennett just outside Durham Station, North Carolina on April 17, 18, and 26, 1865. *Tibbs Lane and the Stage Road, west of the McLean House*

11 a.m. *Battles of Appomattox*

Park Historian Patrick Schroeder explains how and where the last fighting happened around the village of Appomattox Court House on April 9, 1865 in what was the last battle of the Confederate Army of Northern Virginia and lead directly to General Lee's decision to surrender later that day. The program will include tactical information, but also stories about the last soldiers to die in the Eastern Theater of the War, and the role played by approximately 5,000 United States Colored Troops in the final scene. *Triangle in front of the Peers House*

The Village of Appomattox Court House

The small village of Appomattox Court House was an unlikely scene for high drama during the Civil War, and for four years neither side ever came close to it. But on April 8, 1865 the unlikely happened and the little town was immortalized in American history. Explore the history of Appomattox and learn what the remains of this small town teach us about Southside and Central Virginia during the mid-1800s and how the war impacted it. *12 p.m. - Tibbs Lane and the Stage Road, west of the McLean House; 5 p.m. - Triangle in front of the Peers House*

Confederados to Brazil

Casey Clabough, author of *Confederado: A Novel of the Americas* discusses the Virginians who immigrated to Brazil both during and after the war. Why did they go? Why Brazil? *Tibbs Lane and the Stage Road, west of the McLean House*

The Stacking of Arms (talk)

Many historians have felt that the Surrender Parade on April 12, 1865 really held the true meaning of what transpired at Appomattox. Relive that day as you stand along the Stage Road where “honor answered honor” as both armies would face each other one last time. Their conduct that day signaled a dignified end to our nation’s bloodiest four years. *Triangle in front of the Peers House*

Joel Sweeney, Indeed a Wonder

The banjo has become the quintessential American musical instrument. It combines the traditions of the simple stringed gourd from African slaves with the ballads and tunes of the Scotch-Irish and English who settled Virginia. In this lively program, learn about Appomattox native Joel Sweeney, the man who popularized the 5-string banjo. *Tibbs Lane and the Stage Road, west of the McLean House*

Stacking of Arms Ceremony (reenactment)

Stand along the corridor of the historic Richmond-Lynchburg Stage Road with hundreds of Union re-enactors and watch the Confederates march in and perform their last act as members of the Army of Northern Virginia. See and feel their emotions as they stack their guns and flags between the lines of Union soldiers, fulfilling the terms of surrender. Watch the Confederates march away, returning to their camp one last time to receive parole passes and begin their journeys home. *Stage Road*

The Power of Appomattox

Spend some time with Park Historian Patrick Schroeder as he shares primary source descriptions and reactions to the surrender, and discover surprising and unrealized facts about the timeless story of Appomattox. *Triangle in front of the Peers House*

Ely Parker: A Warrior in Two Camps

Ely Parker was U. S. Grant's friend and aide-de-camp and he wrote the final draft of the Appomattox surrender terms. This program will cover Parker's military accomplishments, and his civilian accomplishments, including being a Seneca Sachem and a graduate of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, which launched his engineering career. The program on April 11th will be presented by David Wooldridge of the National Park Service. *Tibbs Lane and the Stage Road, west of the McLean House*

Sunday, April 12, 2015

Park grounds: 8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Visitor Center: 8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.

7 a.m. *The First Act in Healing a Nation* (online program only)

The re-enactors that will be stacking arms at 9 a.m. will be eating a special breakfast at 7 a.m. The Union re-enactors will be providing ham, biscuits, and coffee to their Confederate counterparts. This gesture is a historic reference to the provisions that Lt. Gen. Grant had sent to the Confederates who were waiting to fulfill the terms of surrender by stacking arms on April 12 so they could be paroled and leave for home. Though the grounds will not yet be open to the public when this happens, look for coverage of this special event on social media.

9 a.m., 11 a.m., 1 p.m. *Stacking of Arms Ceremony* (re-creation)

Stand along the corridor of the historic Richmond-Lynchburg Stage Road with hundreds of Union re-enactors and watch the Confederates march in and perform their last act as members of the Army of Northern Virginia. See and feel their emotions as they stack their weapons and flags between the lines of Union soldiers, fulfilling the terms of surrender. Watch the Confederates march away, returning to their camp one last time to receive parole passes and begin their journeys home. *Stage Road*

10 a.m., 12 p.m. *The Stacking of Arms* (talk)

Many historians have felt that the Surrender Parade on April 12, 1865 really held the true meaning of what transpired at Appomattox. Relive that day as you stand along the Stage Road where “honor answered honor” as both armies would face each other one last time. Their conduct that day signaled a dignified end to our nation’s bloodiest four years. *Triangle in front of the Peers House*

10 a.m. *Grant After the War*

In many ways the war brought Ulysses Grant out of obscurity and into the national spotlight. Grant lived for 20 years after the war and in addition to serving two terms as president, he had other accomplishments, including his well-written memoirs that contain perhaps the most thorough account of the surrender meeting. *Tibbs Lane and the Stage Road, west of the McLean House*

12 p.m. *Lee After the War*

Unlike Grant, Robert E. Lee only lived five years after the war. He spent most of the remainder of his life as president of Washington College (now known as Washington & Lee University). The years following the war were difficult for the South and seem also difficult for Lee to witness. Find out if Lee and Grant ever met after they left Appomattox. *Tibbs Lane and the Stage Road, west of the McLean House*

2 p.m. *After Appomattox*

What happened at Appomattox reverberated across the nation. Veterans returned home to new lives; a re-established and redefined United States confronted an uncertain future. Dr. David Blight, Professor of American History of Yale University will join others in exploring the aftermath and legacy of Appomattox. *Main Stage at the Isbell House*

3 p.m.

Stacking of Arms Ceremony (open invitation recreation)

On April 12, 1865 the most tangible part of the surrender took place, when Confederate infantry marched into the village to fulfill the terms of surrender and stack their arms. Waiting silently was a line of Union troops. The Confederates stacked their weapons, though many didn't have them, and also surrendered their battle flags and musical instruments. Today the public, and re-enactment groups, have the opportunity to march into the village and be part of a special ceremony commemorating the stacking of arms, in the place and on the date when it happened, exactly 150 years later. *Stage Road*

4 p.m.

Confederates Going Home

Once the arms were stacked and the parole passes were issued, what happened to the men that used to make up the Army of Northern Virginia? Some of these men were Virginians, but every Confederate state had men in this army, including Texas. How did they get home, and what challenges did they face? *Triangle in front of the Peers House*

4 p.m.

Johnston's Surrender at Bennett Place

John Guss, Site Manager of Bennett Place State Historic Site (N.C.), will discuss the final collapse of the Army of Tennessee and share the events and the controversial surrender negotiations between Major General William T. Sherman and General Joseph E. Johnston at the small farm of James and Nancy Bennett just outside Durham Station, North Carolina on April 17, 18, and 26, 1865. *Tibbs Lane and the Stage Road, west of the McLean House*

NPS

About Appomattox Court House National Historical Park

Appomattox Court House National Historical Park preserves, protects and interprets the historic structures, grounds and collections associated with the place where on April 9, 1865

Confederate General Robert E. Lee surrendered the Army of Northern Virginia to Lt. General Ulysses S. Grant, overall commander of all Union forces. The surrender symbolically ended the American Civil War and began the reunification process between North and South. The national park encompasses nearly 1,800 acres of rolling hills in rural central Virginia and includes the McLean home where the surrender was negotiated and the village of Appomattox Court House, Virginia, the former county seat for Appomattox County. Visit us at www.nps.gov/apco or follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/AppomattoxNPS.